

(19) United States

(12) Patent Application Publication (10) Pub. No.: US 2020/0370879 A1 Mutlu et al.

Nov. 26, 2020 (43) **Pub. Date:**

(54) WEARABLE VOICE-INDUCED VIBRATION OR SILENT GESTURE SENSOR

(71) Applicant: Apple Inc., Cupertino, CA (US)

Inventors: Mehmet Mutlu, Stanford, CA (US); Ahmet Fatih Cihan, Stanford, CA (US)

Appl. No.: 16/849,826

(22) Filed: Apr. 15, 2020

Related U.S. Application Data

(60) Provisional application No. 62/852,481, filed on May 24, 2019.

Publication Classification

(51) **Int. Cl.** G01B 9/02 (2006.01)G06F 3/01 (2006.01) G06F 3/16 (2006.01)H04R 1/10 (2006.01)

U.S. Cl.

CPC G01B 9/02092 (2013.01); G06F 3/017 (2013.01); H04R 2460/13 (2013.01); H04R 1/1091 (2013.01); G06F 3/167 (2013.01)

ABSTRACT (57)

Disclosed herein are wearable devices, their configurations, and methods of operation that use self-mixing interferometry signals of a self-mixing interferometry sensor to recognize user inputs. The user inputs may include voiced commands or silent gesture commands. The devices may be wearable on the user's head, with the self-mixing interferometry sensor configured to direct a beam of light toward a location on the user's head. Skin deformations or vibrations at the location may be caused by the user's speech or the user's silent gestures and recognized using the self-mixing interferometry signal. The self-mixing interferometry signals may be used for bioauthentication and/or audio conditioning of received sound or voice inputs to a microphone.



